

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting video signals, comprising the steps of:

— ~~receiving an image of an original video signal defining, on display, an image;~~

5 — ~~modifying a portion of said original video signal in order to form, on display, a modified~~an image area of said image, ~~to create thereby creating~~ a modified video signal;

— transmitting the modified video signal;

10 transmitting an auxiliary signal ~~as a sub-series of bits~~ defining replacement video information for said ~~modified portion of the original video signal corresponding, on display, to the modified~~ image area of the ~~modified video signal~~image as a sub-series of bits, wherein said sub-series ~~of bits~~ is encoded by a substantially same number of bits as said ~~modified portion of the original video signal corresponding, on display, to said modified~~ image area.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said replacement video information ~~is corresponds, on display, to the~~ image area of the original ~~video~~ signal.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the auxiliary signal further includes data defining the

position and/or size, on display, of the image area corresponding to the replacement video information.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the modified video signal is encoded into a bitstream and the portion of the modified video signal corresponding, on display, to the modified image area, is represented by the sub-series of bits,  
5 characterized in that the replacement video information is encoded and represented by a substantially same number of bits as the portion of the modified video signal corresponding, on display, to the modified image area.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the auxiliary signal is accommodated in user data fields of the bitstream.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the modified video signal is predictively encoded and the step of modifying is applied to pictures which are not referred to by other pictures.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the modification of the portion of the original video signal corresponding, on display, to the image area, identifies copy protection status information.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method as claimed in claim 7,  
wherein the ~~image-original video signal~~ is modified in such a  
manner that the modified video signal ~~has-forms, on display, an~~  
~~image having~~ a pattern that is not reproduced upon playback by  
5 conventional analog video recorders.

9. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for transmitting a video  
signal, comprising:

-- means for receiving ~~an image of~~ an original video signal  
~~defining, on display, an image;~~

5 -- means for modifying ~~a portion of said original video~~  
~~signal in order to form, on display, a modified~~an image area of  
said image, ~~to create thereby creating~~ a modified video signal;

-- means for transmitting the modified video signal; ~~and~~

~~wherein the arrangement includes~~ means for transmitting an

10 auxiliary signal ~~as a sub-series of bits~~ defining, on display, a  
sub-image to replace the modified image area ~~of-forming, on display,~~  
~~by~~ the modified video signal, and wherein said ~~auxiliary signal~~  
~~forming, on display, said~~ sub-image, is encoded by a substantially  
same number of bits as ~~the portion of said modified video signal~~  
15 ~~forming, on display,~~ said image area.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of decoding a digital video  
signal, comprising the steps of:

-- receiving a main bitstream representing, ~~on display,~~ an  
image of a video signal;

5 |       receiving an auxiliary bitstream representing replacement  
| video information ~~for corresponding to, on display, an~~ image area  
| of said image;  
|  
|       replacing a sub-series of bits of said main bitstream  
| representing said image area by said replacement video information  
10 | to obtain a modified bitstream, wherein said modified bitstream  
| defines said sub-series by a substantially same number of bits as ~~a~~  
| ~~sub-series of bits representing~~ said image area in said main  
| bitstream; and  
|  
|       decoding said modified bitstream.

11. (Currently Amended)     A method of transcoding a digital video  
signal, comprising the steps of:

|       receiving a main bitstream representing, ~~on display,~~ an  
| image of a video signal;  
5 |       receiving an auxiliary bitstream representing replacement  
| video information ~~for corresponding, on display, to an~~ image area  
| of said image;  
|  
|       replacing a sub-series of bits of said main bitstream  
| representing said image area by said replacement video information  
10 | to obtain a modified bitstream, wherein said modified bitstream  
| defines ~~said a sub-series of bits corresponding to said replacement~~  
| ~~video information~~ by a substantially same number of bits as said  
| ~~image area~~ ~~sub-series of bits~~ in said main bitstream; and  
|  
|       transmitting said modified bitstream.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ method as claimed in claim 11,  
wherein the auxiliary bitstream is accommodated in user data fields  
of the main bitstream.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ method as claimed in claim 11,  
further comprising the step of:  
deriving the position and/or size of said image area from  
data included in the auxiliary bitstream.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ method as claimed in claim 11,  
further comprising the steps of:

----- determining whether the image area represented by said  
sub-series of bits of said main bitstream identifies copy

5 protection status information; and

----- enabling recording of the modified bitstream if said  
determination is positive.

15. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for decoding a digital  
video signal, comprising:

--- means for receiving a main bitstream representing an image  
of a video signal;

5 --- means for receiving an auxiliary bitstream representing  
replacement video information for an image area of said image;

--- means for replacing a sub-series of bits of said main  
bitstream representing said image area by said replacement video  
information to obtain a modified bitstream, wherein said sub-series

10 is represented by a substantially same number of bits as a sub-series of bits of said auxiliary bitstream corresponding to said replacement video information representing said image area; and  
— means for decoding said modified bitstream.

16. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for transcoding a digital video signal, comprising:

means for receiving a main bitstream representing an image of a video signal;

5 | ... means for receiving an auxiliary bitstream representing  
replacement video information for an image area of said image;

means for replacing a sub-series of bits of said main bitstream representing said image area by a sub-series of bits representing said replacement video information to obtain a

10 modified bitstream, wherein said sub-series of bits of said main bitstream is represented by a substantially same number of bits as said sub-series of bits of said auxiliary bitstream representing said image area; and

means for transmitting said modified bitstream.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The arrangement as claimed in claim  
16, ~~wherein said arrangement further comprising~~comprises:

means for determining whether the image area represented by said sub-series of bits of said main bitstream identifies copy

5 protection status information; and

| ..... means for enabling recording of the modified bitstream if  
said determination is positive.

18-20. (Cancelled).